



"PATENT" *Handwritten initials*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Thomas G. Mason et al.

) Before the Examiner
) Nadine G. Norton

U. S. Serial No.: 09/818,435

) Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: March 27, 2001

) Confirmation Number: 2059

For: DISAGGREGATION OF ASPHALTENES
IN INCOMPATIBLE OIL MIXTURES

) Family Number: P2001J013
)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis for believing that this correspondence will be deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 20, 2003.

Date of Deposit

JOANNE WOLTERS
Name of attorney or agent

Joanne Wolters
Signature

Feb. 19 2003
Date of Signature

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action of February 26, 2003, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

In the Claims:

B1 1. (Amended) A method comprising disaggregating asphaltenes in petroleum oils and mixtures of petroleum oils, and/or refinery streams by mild heating, the disaggregated asphaltenes remaining soluble in the petroleum oils and mixtures of petroleum oils and/or refinery process streams.



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE